

Finance and Government Operations Commission Meeting Minutes
Middletown, Connecticut
January 27, 2016
Municipal Building Room 208
7:00 P.M.

Present: Councilman Thomas Serra, Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta, Councilwoman Linda Salafia, Councilman Gerald Daley, Councilman Sebastian Giuliano, Carl Erlacher, Dr. Joseph Havlicek, Faith Jackson, Wayne Bartolotta, Tayna Oliver-Perry, William Russo, Kori Wisneski, Eldon Bailey, Joseph Kask, Santo Carta Vincent Loffredo, Shawn Beals

Absent: None

Councilman Serra opened the Finance & Government meeting. He requested approval of the minutes dated December 30, 2015. Councilman Daley moved to approve, Councilwoman Salafia seconded, approved unanimously.

1. Public Comments on the Agenda:

Vincent Loffredo discussed establishing a new building committee for WWMS grades 6, 7 & 8. Councilman Serra asked to have the Mayor made aware of the resolution and also include the recommendations given for committee members.

2. Conferences and Training:

Faith Jackson requested \$700.00 from the designated training line item in Finance to cover the cost of training for City employees who were required to attend the Sexual Harassment training. This year the Chamber cost per person was reduced to \$35.00 per person, for a total of 20 employees. Councilman Daley motioned to approve and Councilman Giuliano seconded, unanimously approved.

3. The following Departments have submitted items to be discussed:

- Discussion of FY14-15 Audit – Blum Shapiro

Joseph Kask from Blum Shapiro discussed the Audit and commended Carl and the Finance department once again for their complete cooperation.

– Approved to send to Council Floor –

- OGC – Executive Summary of UPSEU collective bargaining tentative agreement

Deputy Attorney Kori Wisneski discussed the tentative UPSEU agreement and the financial impact, unanimously approved.

– Approved to send to Council Floor –

- Central Communications – Interlocal Agreement between City of Middletown and Town of Portland

Wayne Bartolotta discussed the 5 year agreement between the City and the Town of Portland. Councilman Giuliano moved to approve, Councilman Daley seconded, unanimously approved

- Approved to send to Council Floor-

- Health – Grant Confirmation totaling \$300 in local donations for Teen Life Conference Grant

Councilwoman Salafia moved to approve and was seconded, unanimously approved.

-Approved to send to Council Floor -

- PCD – Grant Confirmation totaling \$115,064 in State funds to purchase six electric vehicles & six dual-head charging stations; Appropriation Request totaling \$78,606 as the City's contribution (to the electric vehicle grant); Appropriation Request totaling \$10,000 to perform title search and create A-2 survey for Pierce Property Acquisition; Resolution requesting authorization for Mayor Drew to sign all documents for Pierce Property Acquisition and reimbursement from State Open Space Grant; Appropriation Request totaling \$145,262.30 for first of two installments for acquisition of the 110 acre Pierce Property

William Russo discussed the Grant Confirmation totaling \$115,064 for the purchase of 6 electric cars and charging stations that will be located in Melilli Plaza. The charging stations will be available for use by the public for the first 3 years. Councilwoman Bartolotta asked if he would be aging the old cars out. Yes, they would be replacing 3 of the oldest vehicles at this time with the new electric cars. Councilman Daley moved to approve, Councilwoman Salafia seconded, unanimously approved.

Carl Erlacher received notification from Michiel Wackers to remove the Pierce property appropriations and resolutions from tonight's agenda. Carl explained that the agenda had already been set so this committee would have to vote. All of the remaining items regarding the Pierce Property have been voted down for this evening by unanimous vote.

- Public Works – Emergency Repair totaling \$6,336 for LED lighting on Church Street

Councilman Daley moved to approve, Councilwoman Bartolotta seconded, unanimously approved.

-Approved to send to Council Floor –

- IT – Appropriation Request totaling \$31,640 for BOE Admins licensing fees

Eldon Bailey requested the Appropriation for \$31,640 to cover the shortfall for the BOE Admins licensing

Eldon Bailey explained the appropriation request and informed the committee that he would be including the BOE costs with his IT budget for next year. Councilman Daley moved to approve, Councilman Giuliano seconded, unanimously approved.

-Approved to send to Council Floor-

- Review of amended Ordinance 78-10 Contracts for professional services

Councilwoman Bartolotta moved to approve with a wording change from, "wherever possible" to "wherever practicable". Councilman Daley seconded, unanimously approved.

-Approved to send to Council Floor-

- Discussion to establish committee to negotiate with Exempt Employees

Councilman Serra stated that he and Councilwoman Bartolotta will be seated on the committee and suggested that Carl pick one other person. Councilman Giuliano suggested Councilwoman Salafia be placed on this committee as well, being the retired Payroll Supervisor she may have more insight. Councilman Serra requested that both Councilwomen receive a hard copy of the Personnel Rules. Councilman Daley suggested that the "Exempt Employees" now be referred to as the "Non-Represented Employees" the vote was unanimous for the change in title.

- Discussion of ACO position and funding

Deputy Attorney Wisneski discussed the ACO positions and funding and believed that the Resolution made last October which covers all.

- Discussion of Legal Fees Report from OGC

Attorney Wisneski discussed the legal fees and noted that the Cohen, Burns, Hard & Paul foreclosure costs totaling \$1,652.31 should not have been included as a legal fee, per the memo from the Tax Collector.

- Discussion of new State Motor Vehicle Tax legislation

-Discussion Only-

- Establishment of City of Middletown Fund Balance and Debt Policies

Councilwoman Bartolotta moved to approve and Councilwoman Salafia seconded, unanimously approved.

-Approved to send to Council Floor-

Regular Reports – Information Only

- Transfer of Funds/BOE Transfers
- General Fund Appropriations
- City's Investments
- Professional Services Report
- Monthly Expenditure Summary Report
- Tax Collection Recap Report
- Department Over-Time Reports
- Quarterly Reports – Arts & Culture and Senior Services checking accounts

The next meeting is Wednesday, March 2nd at 7pm in Room 208

Meeting Adjourned

Tracks:

Respectfully
Submitted by,

Tracy Vess on behalf of Carl R. Erlacher